



## Facts & Figures 2015

100th Anniversary 1915 - 2015



NPS/Bonnie Beach

<b>Park Website</b>	nps.gov/romo	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center
<b>Follow @RockyNPS on Social Media</b>	Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Flickr, YouTube	1000 U. S. Highway 36 Estes Park, Colorado 80517
<b>Park Information</b>	(970) 586-1206 Information Office	Kawuneeche Visitor Center
<b>Trail Ridge Road Recorded Status Line</b>	(970) 586-1222 Recorded message	16018 U. S. Highway 34 Grand Lake, Colorado 80447

<b>Park Purpose</b> <i>The park purpose identifies the specific reason for park establishment</i>	The purpose of Rocky Mountain National Park is to preserve the high-elevation ecosystems and wilderness character of the southern Rocky Mountains within its borders and to provide the freest recreational use of and access to the park’s scenic beauties, wildlife, natural features and processes, and cultural objects.
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<b>Park Significance</b> <i>Significance statements express why the park’s resources and values are important enough to warrant national park designation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rocky Mountain National Park provides exceptional access to wild places for visitors to recreate and experience solitude and outstanding scenic beauty. Trail Ridge Road, the highest continuous paved road in the United States, and the extensive trail system bring visitors to the doorstep of a variety of wilderness-based recreational opportunities.</li><li>• Fragile alpine tundra encompasses one-third of Rocky Mountain National Park, one of the largest examples of alpine tundra ecosystems protected in the contiguous United States.</li><li>• Glaciers and flowing fresh water carved the landscapes of Rocky Mountain National Park. The park is the source of several river systems, including the Colorado River and the Cache la Poudre, Colorado’s first and only designated wild and scenic river.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The dramatic elevation range within the park boundary, which spans from 7,600 feet to 14,259 feet and straddles the Continental Divide, allows for diverse terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, varied plant and animal communities and a variety of ecological processes. The park is designated as a United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural (UNESCO) international biosphere reserve and globally important bird area, with portions of the park’s montane, subalpine, and alpine ecosystems managed as research natural areas for scientific and educational purposes.</li><li>• The mountainous landscape of Rocky Mountain National Park has drawn people to the area for thousands of years. Visitors can see remnants of the different ways people have used this land over time, ranging from prehistoric big game drives to dude ranching to recreational tourism.</li></ul>
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<b>2014 Recreation Visitation</b>	January 77,633	April 97,100	July 693,685	October 305,651
	February 76,881	May 220,532	August 616,826	November 90,915
	March 99,077	June 538,725	September 537,694	December 80,032
	Total Number of Recreation Visitors in 2014: 3,434,754, the park’s highest annual visitation			

<b>Size and Features</b>	Official Park Gross Acres / Hectares: Square Miles / Kilometers Wilderness Acres / Hectares	265,795 ac / 107,609 ha (includes inholdings) 415 sq m / 1076 sq km Designated 252,085 ac / 102,015 ha Potential additions 360 ac / 146 ha 94.8% of the park is designated Wilderness
	Tundra Acres / Hectares Elevations Feet / Meters	89,099 ac / 36,057 ha Bear Lake 9,475 ft / 2,887 m Milner Pass/Continental Divide 10,758 ft / 3,548 m Longs Peak 14,259 ft / 4,346 m
	Highest Elevation in the Park Feet / Meters Named Peaks	There are 124 named peaks 8,789 feet and higher in the park. Of those, 118 are above 10,000 feet 98 are above 11,000 feet 77 are above 12,000 feet 20 are above 13,000 feet 1 is above 14,000 feet
	Average Annual Precipitation (source: NOAA)	Estes Park 2000-2010 16.81 in / 42.7 cm Grand Lake 1981-2010 19.92 in / 50.6 cm
	Lakes	147 lakes, many with fish; 1,151 acres / 466 hectares

<b>Rocky Mountain Conservancy</b>	Rocky Mountain Conservancy (RMC), a nonprofit organization, supports park programs and projects not readily achievable through the use of federal funds and personnel. RMC produces educational publications, offers seminars, supports research, and provides aid and philanthropic support to Rocky Mountain National Park and other public lands partners.
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Visitor Centers		Alpine, at Fall River Pass - elevation 11,796’ (3,595 m) Beaver Meadows, at Park Headquarters, U. S. Highway 36 west of Estes Park - elev 7,840’ (2,390 m) Fall River, on U. S. Highway 34 west of Estes Park - elevation 8,250’ (2,515 m) Kawuneeche, on U. S. Highway 34 north of Grand Lake - elevation 8,720’ (2,658 m) Moraine Park, on Bear Lake Road - elevation 8,140’ (2,481 m)		
Camping	Campground	Number of Summer Sites	Backcountry Campsites	Number of Sites
	Aspenglen	53	Individual	197
	Glacier Basin	150	Group	21
	Glacier Basin Group	13	Accessible	1
	Longs Peak	26	Crosscountry Areas	48
	Moraine Park	244		
	Timber Creek	98		
Entrance Stations	Beaver Meadows	West of Estes Park, U. S. Highway 36		
	Fall River	West of Estes Park, U. S. Highway 34		
	Grand Lake	North of Grand Lake, U. S. Highway 34		
	Wild Basin	North of Allenspark, Colorado Highway 7		
Species	Birds	280		
	Fish	7 native 4 exotic		
	Mammals	Most commonly seen large mammals are elk, mule deer, bighorn sheep, coyotes; 66 species are known to be native to the area, but three of these - grizzly bear, gray wolf, and bison - have been extirpated (are locally extinct), and two others - lynx and wolverine - are either extirpated or extremely rare		
	Butterflies	139 confirmed species		
	Vascular Plants	Approximately 1100		
Federally Listed Threatened, Endangered & Candidate Species	Threatened	Endangered	Candidate	
	Greenback cutthroat trout	(none)	Arapahoe snowfly	
	Canada lynx			
	Colorado butterfly plant			
	Ute’s lady’s tresses			
	Endangered means the species could become extinct; Threatened means the species could become endangered			
Exotic Species	100+ Exotic plant species, approximately 40 considered invasive with potential to displace native plants 9 Non-native vertebrate species			
Wildlife Population Estimates	Bears	20-24		
	Bighorn Sheep	350+		
	Coyotes	Common		
	Deer	500 in Estes Valley in winter, more in summer		
	Elk	200 - 600 winter in the park		
	Moose	30 - 50 on west side; increasing on east side		
	Mountain Lions	No actual research-based counts; estimate 20-30		
Roads and Trails	Paved Roads	92 miles / 148 kilometers		
	Unpaved Roads	28 miles / 45 kilometers		
	Hiking Trails	Approximately 355 miles / 571 kilometers		
	Scenic Roads			
	Trail Ridge Road	Closed in winter. 2014 Open/Close dates May 23 - November 4		
	Old Fall River Road	Closed in 2014 due to flood damage. Expected to open July 2015 for season		
	Bear Lake Road	Year-round access to scenic areas and trails along this corridor		
Designations	January 26, 1915	Establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park (16 USC 191)		
	January 17, 1977	Inclusion in the international system of Biosphere Reserves (UNESCO)		
	1977	Designation of park as Class 1 airshed (1977 Amendment to Clean Air Act)		
	November 10, 1978	Establishment & designation of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail including sections within RMNP (Public Law 95-625)		
	October 30, 1986	Designation of Cache la Poudre River within RMNP (14 miles as Wild River) as a unit of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (P.L. 99-590)		
	1996	Designation of Trail Ridge Road as All American Road by the U. S. Dept. of Transportation (National Scenic Byways Program) and designation as a State Scenic Byway		
	2000	Prohibition of Commercial Air Tour Operations (§806, National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000, P.L. 106-181)		
	2001	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center/HQ as National Historic Landmark		
	August 24, 2001	Designation of RMNP as a Globally Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy		
	March 30, 2009	Designation of Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness (P.L. 111-11)		
	A variety of sites in RMNP are on the National Register of Historic Places, including prehistoric archeological sites, buildings, structures including roads and bridges, and even a snowplow			
2014 Staff	Permanent and Term Employees	167		
	Seasonal and Temporary Employees	244		
	Volunteers	1860 / 107,794 hours donated		